· AUSTRALIA $1.50 · CANADA $1.50 · FRANCE 1.00 EURO · NEW ZEALAND $1.50 · SWEDEN KR10 · UK £.50 · U.S. $1.00

THE MILITANT

A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF WORKING PEOPLE

VOL. 71/NO. 39 OCTOBER 22, 2007

INSIDE
Relatives of trapped miners speak out at Utah hearings
—PAGE 5

Kurdish gov't in Iraq signs new oil deals

BY PAUL PEDERSON

The Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) announced four production-sharing contracts October 2 with international oil and gas companies.

The deals drew criticism from Iraq's central government, which has been engaged in drawn-out negotiations over a national oil law. The law is supposed to divide vast oil wealth between competing sections of Iraq's capitalist class through regional administrations and the central government.

The KRG began negotiating directly with oil companies for exploration and development in Iraqi Kurdistan after approving its own oil law in August.

Canadian-based Heritage Oil and Gas, and Perenco S.A., based in France, both signed accords for a 15 percent profit from oil they discover. Dallas-based Hunt Oil signed a similar deal with the KRG earlier. Joint ventures to build two refineries in the region are also under way.

Iraqi oil minister Hussein al-Shahristani told Dow Jones Newswires October 5 that companies that deal with the KRG could be blacklisted by the central government. Commenting in September on the deal with Hunt Oil, U.S. State Department spokesman Tom Casey told the press, the deal was not "helpful" given the pending national oil law.

KRG prime minister Nechirvan

Continued on page 9

Nat'l Latino congress backs freedom for Cuban 5

BY ARLENE RUBINSTEIN

LOS ANGELES—The campaign to win freedom for five Cuban revolutionaries unjustly held in U.S. jails won support from the 500 participants at the 2007 National Latino Congreso (NLC), which met here October 5–9.

The Cuban Five—Antonio Guerrero, Gerardo Hernández, Ramon Labañino, Fernando González, and René González—have been imprisoned in the United States since 1998. They were convicted in 2001 of "conspiracy to commit espionage," "conspiracy to act as unregistered foreign agents," and, in Hernández's case, "conspiracy to commit murder." They were in south Florida gathering information on counterrevolutionary Cuban American groups with a history of carrying out violent attacks on Cuba with Washington's complicity.

"The resolution demanding their immediate release adopted unanimously by delegates registers that news is

Continued on page 6

Forum in New Jersey: 'Justice for Jena Six!'

BY ANGEL LARISCY

NEWARK, New Jersey—"The district attorney in Jena, Louisiana, called the hanging of nooses on a tree outside the high school a 'harmless prank,'" said Maura DeLuca, a member of the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialists, at an October 5 Militant Labor Forum here. "But everyone knows what nooses mean.

"They are a symbol of the lynch-mob terror unleashed to smash gains won by freed slaves and other working people through Radical Reconstruction and recall decades of racist violence during Jim Crow," she said.

DeLuca spoke at the forum, titled "Justice for the Jena 6," together with James Carey, chairman of the Elizabeth, New Jersey, chapter of the People's Organization for Progress.

The Jena Six are Black high school students initially indicted on attempted second-degree murder and conspiracy charges for assaulting a white student in December 2006. The first to come to trial, Mychal Bell, 16 at the time, was charged as an adult. He was convicted June 28 by an all-white jury on the reduced charge of aggravated second-degree battery and conspiracy to commit the act. A state appeals court overturned his conviction September 14, ruling that he should not have been tried as an adult. Held two more weeks nonetheless, Bell was released on bail September 27 after 10 months in jail.

The indictments came in the context of a charged atmosphere at the high school and in Jena.

At an Aug. 31, 2006, school assembly

Continued on page 9

Pentagon says missile shield is operational

BY CINDY JAQUITH

The Pentagon announced October 2 that its missile shield system is fully operable, following a successful test conducted in late September.

The test was "designed to replicate a missile attack from North Korea," according to the Defense Department's American Forces Press Service.

Air Force Lt. Gen. Henry Obering said a target missile was launched September 28 from Kodiak, Alaska. Sea- and land-based radar monitored it for 24 minutes; then an interceptor missile was fired from California. Seven minutes later the interceptor hit and destroyed the target.

Washington claims that it is developing the missile shield system as a re-

Continued on page 3

Immigration cops sweep Southern California

Workers organize to protect each other



ICE agents rounded up 1,300 at homes, workplaces, and prisons in Southern California over the last two weeks. Many immigrants are warning each other or not opening the door when agents come around.

BY NAOMI CRAINE

LOS ANGELES—Federal immigration officials announced October 3 that they arrested more than 1,300 immigrant workers in raids here and in surrounding counties over the previous two weeks. Some 600 people have already been deported.

As the raids continue, some workers are organizing to defend each other. In the early morning of October 4, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents knocked on the door of an apartment complex manager in Reseda, asking where a tenant lived. When she realized they were from *la migra*, Angelita Pascacio began phoning resi-

Continued on page 4

'Militant' sub drive gathers steam

BY OLYMPIA NEWTON

Militant supporters around the world are ahead of schedule in a seven-week campaign to win 2,300 new subscriptions. They have sold nearly 600 subscriptions since the campaign began September 29.

The top sub-seller this week was Alyson Kennedy, who sold 10 subscriptions.

Kennedy joined a team to the Navajo Nation in Arizona and New Mexico. Over three days, a team of *Militant* supporters sold 20 subscriptions there.

When introducing people to the paper, "I think we all began with the Jena Six," wrote Leslie Dork, a nurse in Albuquerque, New Mexico. "One woman described the racism Navajo people face when they go into many of the towns and cities that surround

Continued on page 4



Militant

Gerardo Sánchez (left) sells *Militant* subscriptions and Pathfinder books at flea market in Gallup, New Mexico, October 6. Sánchez sold eight subscriptions this week, putting him in second place.

'Militant' fund behind schedule

BY SAM MANUEL

WASHINGTON, October 9—Supporters of the *Militant* are behind schedule in an eight-week campaign to raise $100,000 for the socialist paper. Heading into the second week, the pace of sending in contributions needs to pick up.

In the coming weeks, supporters of the paper in several cities will host public meetings as part of the fund ef-

Continued on page 4

Also Inside:

‘Declarations of Havana’ now available in Arabic

BY GEORGES MEHRABIAN

ATHENS—The Athens-based publishing house Diethnes Vima (International Forum) has released two new titles, *The First and Second Declarations of Havana* in Arabic and in Greek. This is the first time Diethnes Vima is publishing a title in Arabic.

PATHFINDER AROUND THE WORLD

The books are translations of the Pathfinder Press book with the same title. They both contain an introduction by Mary-Alice Waters, the two declarations, photos, a chronology, glossary, and index.

The Arabic translation was done through international collaboration of volunteers in Beirut and Athens.

Visits to five bookstores near the American University of Beirut netted orders for 21 copies of the Arabic edition. One bookstore ordered six Pathfinder titles in English. Sawt ash-Shaab (Voice of the People), the Beirut radio station of the Communist Party of Lebanon, interviewed Natasha Terlexis, president of Diethnes Vima, about the book.

Eight bookstores in central Athens have ordered 41 copies of the Greek edition, as well as 19 other Diethnes Vima titles. Volunteers plan to visit bookstores in Athens as well as in northern Greece and the Peloponnesus this fall.

Volunteers in Athens set up large book tables featuring the new books at two separate pre-election rallies of several thousand each. Some 25 books in Greek, English, and Spanish were sold, including 5 copies of *The First and Second Declarations of Havana.*

The table displayed two large posters of the covers of the Greek and Arabic books. The Arabic poster attracted a number of immigrant youth and workers from Syria, Iraq, and Egypt. Two left their addresses and phone numbers in order to purchase the Arabic title.

A book launch for the two new books has been set for October 21 in Athens. Speakers include Hermes Herrera Hernández, Cuban ambassador to Greece; Kostas Toumasatos, president of the Greek-Cuban Friendship Association; and Terlexis.

The meeting is hosted by the Cuban Embassy and Diethnes Vima. It will feature a photo exhibit on the events surrounding the declarations. Snacks and drinks will be available at the reception. (For information, see page 3 calendar.)

Pathfinder well received at Paris festival



Militant/Mark Gamar

PARIS—Pathfinder volunteers from Belgium, France, Greece, and the United Kingdom sold 187 books and pamphlets at the Fête de l’Humanité here September 14–16. The Fête is an annual festival organized by the daily newspaper of the French Communist Party. The team sold 36 copies of Socialism and Man by Che Guevara in French, 46 pamphlets by the West African revolutionary leader Thomas Sankara, and 14 copies of Nouvelle International no. 7, which includes the French translation of “Capitalism’s Long Hot Winter Has Begun” by Jack Barnes. They also pre-sold 9 advance copies of the expanded French edition of Thomas Sankara Speaks, published just after the Fête.

—DEREK JEFFERS

Six of the San Francisco Eight released on bail

BY BETSEY STONE

SAN FRANCISCO, September 30—The San Francisco Eight, former members and supporters of the Black Panther Party charged with murder and conspiracy to kill police in the early 1970s, won a victory here with the release on bail of six of the men.

The six had been in jail since January. They were arrested under the pretext of new evidence in the 1971 murder of a San Francisco cop in Ingleside.

Richard Brown, 66, of San Francisco; Harold Taylor, 58, of Panama City, Florida; Hank Jones, 72, of Altadena, California; and Francisco Torres, 58, of New York, all declared their innocence at a September 24 press conference here. Ray Boudreaux, 64, of Altadena; and Richard O’Neal, 58, of San Francisco, were also released on bail.

Two of those charged, Herman Bell and Jalil Muntaqim, are serving time on frame-up charges of killing two New York City cops. They are ineligible for bail.

At an August 22 court hearing, Judge Philip Moscone reduced the bails of the six from $3 million each to sums ranging from $200,000 to $660,000. Supporters of the case raised money to cover the new bails over the following month.

“We are going to keep fighting,” Taylor told a September 23 fundraiser of nearly 100. “It inspires me to see all the young people here today.” All six defendants spoke at the event, sponsored by the San Francisco Print Collective.

Taylor was one of three men tortured by New Orleans police for three days in l973. The cops used electric shocks, cattle prods, and threatened asphyxiation with plastic bags to try and extract confessions in the Ingleside case. A federal court in San Francisco threw out the case in 1975 after the torture was revealed. None of the torturers were ever brought to trial.

In 1999, the San Francisco cops reopened the investigation, claiming that new forensic science had led to new evidence. In 2005, four of the men refused to testify before the grand jury investigating the case and were briefly jailed.

During August court hearings, prosecutor David Druliner asked that the bail be raised for most defendants to $5 million. He argued that this case was the same as those where murders of Blacks and civil rights leaders in the South have been prosecuted long after the crime. Michael Burt, attorney for Ray Boudreaux, said that while institutional racism prevented earlier prosecution of white supremacists, the opposite was the case for the San Francisco Eight. He pointed out that the case *was* prosecuted, and with the FBI “dogging all these men with hundreds of agents.”

The next court hearing will be October 10. For more information see www.FreetheSF8.org.

The Militant

Vol. 71/No. 39

Closing news date: October 10, 2007

Editor: Olympia Newton

Managing Editor: Paul Pederson

Washington correspondent: Sam Manuel

Editorial volunteers: Róger Calero, Cindy Jaquith, Martín Koppel, Doug Nelson, Ben O’Shaughnessy, Jacob Perasso, and Rebecca Williamson.

Published weekly except for one week in January, two weeks in July, and one week in August.

The Militant (ISSN 0026-3885), 306 W. 37th Street, 10th floor, New York, NY 10018. **Telephone:** (212) 244-4899 **Fax:** (212) 244-4947

E-mail: themilitant@mac.com

Website: www.themilitant.com

Correspondence concerning subscriptions or changes of address should be addressed to the Militant, 306 W. 37th Street, 10th floor, New York, NY 10018.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Militant, 306 W. 37th Street, 10th floor, New York, NY 10018.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: United States: for one-year send $35 to above address.

Latin America, Caribbean: for one-year subscription send $65, drawn on a U.S. bank, to above address. By first class (airmail), send $80.

Africa, Asia, and the Middle East: Send $65 drawn on a U.S. bank to above address.

Canada: Send Canadian $45 for one-year subscription to the Militant, 2238 Dundas St. West, Suite 201, Toronto, ON. Postal Code: M6R 3A9.

United Kingdom: £25 for one year by check or international money order made out to CL London, First Floor, 120 Bethnal Green (Entrance in Brick Lane), London, E2 6DG, England.

Republic of Ireland and Continental Europe: £50 for one year by check or international money order made out to CL London at above address.

France: Send 76 euros for one-year subscription to Diffusion du Militant, P.O. Box 175, 23 rue Lecourbe, 75015 Paris.

Sweden, Finland, Norway, Denmark: Send 400 Swedish kronor for one year to Bildhuggarvägen 17, 12144 Johanneshov, Stockholm, Sweden.

New Zealand: Send NZ$50 to P.O. Box 3025, Auckland, New Zealand.

Australia: Send A$50 to P.O. Box 164 Campsie, NSW 2194, Australia.

Pacific Islands: Send NZ$50 to P.O. Box 3025, Auckland, New Zealand.

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent the Militant’s views. These are expressed in editorials.

Missile shield

Continued from front page

sponse to military threats from abroad, specifically naming north Korea and Iran. Actually, the program is aimed at further shifting the military balance of forces against its imperialist rivals, as well as Russia and China. The goal is to give the United States nuclear first-strike capability, which it has not had since the early 1950s when the Soviet Union developed a hydrogen bomb.

In the 1980s then-president Ronald Reagan launched the "Star Wars" project to create a space-based missile shield. The project was later put on the back burner and then revived under the administration of William Clinton in the 1990s. The Clinton administration said it needed the shield to defend against attacks by "rogue states" such as Iraq or north Korea.

Both Beijing and Moscow oppose the program. Russian president Vladimir Putin has spoken out against Washington's current efforts to station 10 interceptor missiles in Poland and a radar base in the Czech Republic.

Polish president Lech Kaczynski and prime minister Jaroslaw Kaczynski have come out in favor of hosting the weapons. If Washington goes ahead with the Polish site, Putin said Moscow will deploy missiles on the border of Poland.

Putin has urged Washington to instead use a radar base in Azerbaijan, just north of Iran.

Report warns of 'homegrown terrorists'

BY DOUG NELSON

In an effort to win support for increased spying, government officials and cop agencies have been promoting the idea that "homegrown terrorists" represent a growing threat in the United States and Europe.

The development, they say, warrants stepped-up surveillance of "militants" and "extremists" who may someday plan a bombing.

"The threat of homegrown terrorists or extremists, acting in concert with other like-minded individuals, or as lone wolves, has become one of the gravest domestic threats we face," said FBI director Robert Mueller to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs last month.

Mueller outlined the expansion of intelligence sharing with local, state, and federal cop agencies, including the creation of a centralized "watch list." He also said the FBI is upgrading its recruitment and use of spies and snitches.

An August report by the New York Police Department (NYPD) titled "Radicalization in the West: The Homegrown Threat" cites 10 examples of terrorist attacks and bombing plots, including five in the United States. It says the plots were conceptualized "by 'unremarkable' local residents/citizens who sought to attack their country of residence."

The report uses examples to define four "phases of radicalization." Common catalysts it cites include losing a job, experiencing racism, political conflicts involving Muslims, or a death in the family.

The report says individuals who adopt "Jihadi-Salafi ideology" and go through the four phases are "quite likely to be involved in the planning or implementation of a terrorist act." The implication is that such individuals should be targeted for spying.

The Salafi ideology, warns the report, is "incubating" in Muslim Student Associations at universities around the country, as well as at bookstores, cafes, hookah bars, and Internet cafes.

Suspect behavior in the most advanced "Jihadization" phase includes traveling abroad, particularly to Pakistan, Iraq, Afghanistan, Kashmir, and Somalia; and "Outward Bound–like activities," such as "camping, white-water rafting, paintball games, target shooting, and even outdoor simulations of military-like maneuvers."

The report mentions certain Internet activity as evidence of a "radicalization process" as well as its use as a resource for planning attacks. A special role is ascribed to prisons, whose "large population of disaffected young men, makes it an excellent breeding ground for radicalization."

Reacting to this same fear, the Bureau of Prisons has been vetting religious materials at federal prison libraries. The bureau came up with approved lists of books and media for each of 20 religious categories. The selected lists range from 6 books on the Sikh religion to 215 on Protestantism.

The censorship is based on a 2004 report by the Justice Department that recommended barring access to material that could, in its words, "advocate violence or radicalize," the *New York Times* reported. Several inmates filed a lawsuit in August against the move.



AP/Laura Rauch

Boston transit cop searches bag of passenger on commuter train, August 2004, part of effort by ruling class to get working people to accept government spying and infringements on privacy.

Rightist and leftist parties make gains in Greek elections

BY GEORGES MEHRABIAN AND MARIA PLESSA

ATHENS—Parties on both the left and right of bourgeois politics scored electoral gains in Greece's September 16 parliamentary elections, while the two parties that have shared power for three decades saw their votes decline.

The conservative New Democracy (ND) party was reelected, and the opposition social-democratic Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) came in second. The two parties have alternated in government since the fall of a dictatorship here in 1974. Both saw their vote percentages fall slightly since the last elections in 2004: ND got 41.8 percent of the vote, down from 45.4; and PASOK got 38.1 percent, down from 40.6.

The Communist Party of Greece (KKE) came in third with 8.2 percent of the vote, followed by the Coalition of the Radical Left (SYRIZA) with 5 percent. The ultraright Popular Orthodox Rally (LAOS) got 3.8 percent. All five of these parties will have seats in parliament.

SYRIZA increased its vote by 54 percent since 2004, while KKE increased its share by 38 percent. This is the highest combined total for the two parties since 1974. LAOS increased its vote by 42 percent and made it into parliament for the first time.

Greece's ruling class has been on the offensive against public education, social security, and the national health fund. The vote totals reflect polarization over this course.

In addition, the government's response to devastating fires last summer undermined its credibility. Some 270,000 hectares (1 hectare = 2.5 acres) of forest and farm land were burned. The fires continued for days on end before the government began mobilizing resources. More than 66 people died, and more than 1,100 homes were destroyed. In the Peloponnesus, where olives and oil are the main agricultural product, fires destroyed 5 million olive trees, devastating thousands of farmers.

The KKE and SYRIZA played off this discontent to score electoral points. LAOS also capitalized on the unease. Giorgos Karatzferis, LAOS's central leader, combined anti-immigrant and anti-Semitic rhetoric, opposition to Turkish membership in the European Union, and an "anti-globalization" and anti-American stance. He used populist demagogy, and claimed to admire Cuban revolutionaries Fidel Castro and Che Guevara.

The ND's Costas Karamanlis will remain prime minister. A September 21 editorial in the *Athens News* said, "with a reduced majority of just 2 seats…Karamanlis…may well choose to adopt a low key approach that raises no flags to the opposition." But privatizing education, cutting social security, and pushing through other austerity measures are on the agenda for the capitalist class here as a whole.

—CALENDAR—

NEW YORK

Planning Meeting for the N.Y.C. Cuban Five Conference. Mon., Oct. 29. Meeting, 7 p.m. *Hunter College Center for Puerto Rican Studies. East Building, 14th Floor, Room 1441. Email: freethecubanfive@hotmail.com.*

CANADA

Toronto

Breaking the Silence: Canada-U.S. Solidarity Conference on the Cuban Five. Nov. 9–11. *Email: contact@cubasolidarity.com.* Sponsors: National Network On Cuba and the Canadian Network On Cuba.

GREECE

Athens

Book Launch for Greek and Arabic Editions of *The First and Second Declarations of Havana.* Speakers: Hermes Herrera Hernández, Cuban ambassador to Greece; Natasha Terlexis, president of Diethnes Vima; and Kostas Toumasatos, president of Greek-Cuban Friendship Association. Sun., Oct. 21, 7 p.m. *Latin American and Hispanic Sociocultural Alliance of Greece, Falirou 47A, Koukaki, Metro Fix.* Sponsors: Cuban Embassy, Diethnes Vima.

Meetings to celebrate 'Our History Is Still Being Written: The Story of Three Chinese-Cuban Generals in the Cuban Revolution'

SCOTLAND

Glasgow

Speakers: Caroline Hoy, researcher and speaker on Chinese migration; Jonathan Silberman, Pathfinder Books, London. Thur., Oct. 18. Reception, 6:30 p.m.; program, 7 p.m. *University of Glasgow, Bute Gardens, Adam Smith Building, Room T316. Email: Pathfinder.ed@btinternet.com, Tel: 07931571503.* Sponsors: Scottish Centre for Chinese Social Science Research, University of Glasgow; Pathfinder Books, Edinburgh.

Edinburgh

Speakers: Caroline Hoy, Jonathan Silberman. Fri., Oct. 19. Reception, 6:30 p.m.; program, 7 p.m. *University of Edinburgh, George Square, David Hume Tower, Faculty Room South. Email: Pathfinder.ed@btinternet.com Tel: 07931571503.* Sponsors: Confucius Institute for Scotland in the University of Edinburgh; Pathfinder Books, Edinburgh; Edinburgh University Chinese Students Association.

NATIONAL MOBILIZATION TO END THE WAR IN IRAQ

Sat., Oct. 27. Boston; Chicago; Jonesborough, TN; Los Angeles; New Orleans; New York; Orlando, FL; Philadelphia; Salt Lake City; San Francisco; Seattle. Sponsor: United for Peace and Justice. *For more information, see directory on p. 8 or visit www.Oct27.org.*

—MILITANT LABOR FORUMS—

PENNSYLVANIA

Pittsburgh

A Hidden Chapter of the Civil Rights Movement: The Lowndes County Freedom Party in Alabama. A Program to Benefit the *Militant* Newspaper. Speaker: John Benson, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Oct. 20. Dinner, 7 p.m. Program, 8 p.m. Donation: $7 dinner, $5 program. *5907 Penn Ave., Room 225. Tel. (412) 365-1090.*

Capitalism and the Destruction of the Environment. Is 'Alternative Energy' the Road Forward for Society? Speaker: Ved Dookhun, Socialist Workers Party. Fri., Oct. 26. Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Program, 7:30 p.m. Donation: $5 dinner, $5 program. *5907 Penn Ave., Room 225. Tel. (412) 365-1090.*

Philadelphia

The Political Legacy of Thomas Sankara Today. A Militant Fund Event. Speaker: Mike Taber, Socialist Workers Party. Sat., Oct. 20. Dinner, 6:30 p.m. Program, 7:30 p.m. *188 W. Wyoming Ave. Tel. (215) 455-2682.*

Young Socialists campaign with 'Militant'

This column is written and edited by members of the Young Socialists, a revolutionary socialist youth organization. For more information contact the YS at 306 W. 37th St., 10th floor, New York, NY 10018; tel.: (212) 629-6649; e-mail: youngsocialists@mac.com.

YOUNG SOCIALISTS IN ACTION

BY BEN O'SHAUGHNESSY

Young Socialists around the country are joining the campaign to expand the readership of the *Militant* newspaper. YS members are getting out the press on campuses, on the job, and at social protest actions.

"We sold a subscription to a student at a September 27 meeting on campus to introduce the YS," said Ben Joyce, a YS member in Albany, New York. "That weekend we helped sell another eight mostly to students at an antiwar action in Syracuse, New York." Joyce said that another two were sold during the week to students at a campus meeting featuring the YS in St. Louis.

At an event in New York City on October 6 to demand the release of the Cuban Five and to celebrate the life of Ernesto Che Guevara, Tom Baumann, a YS member from New York City, sold three subscriptions.

"Some came to learn about the ideas of Che Guevara and most importantly how to put them into practice," said Baumann. "The *Militant* gives those looking to join today's struggles the kind of weekly coverage they need."

The next day he sold a subscription to a taxi driver in Queens, New York.

"So far for the drive, we've sold three subscriptions where I work, with more to come," said Chauncey Robinson, a garment worker and YS member in San Francisco. "A young Salvadoran worker who has been attending Militant Labor Forums and classes on *Che Guevara Talks to Young People* has also joined us on plant-gate sales."



Militant/Jacquie Henderson

Young Socialist Maura DeLuca sells *Militant* at September 20 march in Louisiana demanding justice for the Jena Six. The YS is using the sub drive to reach out on campuses and beyond.

In the next week, Robinson will head to Moscow, Idaho, to help build a meeting on the Cuban Five there at the University of Idaho. From there she will join other supporters of the *Militant* in Utah to follow up with miners and other working people who recently subscribed.

These are just a few examples of efforts by young readers to expand the paper's circulation. The campaign helps bring the voice of the working class to vanguard workers and revolutionary-minded youth.

We urge you to join us in the coming weeks at actions against the war in Iraq on October 27 in cities across the United States; on campus tables and street corners; on the job and at plant-gates and mine portals. Show the paper to your friends, classmates, co-workers, and neighbors, and get them to subscribe! Order a bundle to distribute on your campus or job! Join teams of *Militant* supporters in meatpacking areas in the Midwest and coalfields out West!

For more information on how to get involved, contact the YS at the address listed above or a *Militant* distributor near you listed on page 8.



1,300 arrested in California 'migra' raids

Continued from front page

dents, telling them not to open the door. Other neighbors did the same.

"They came through, but no one opened the door and in about 10 minutes they left," Pascacio told reporters.

ICE agents have come into that community repeatedly over the last year. Residents told the Spanish-language daily *La Opinión* that they have developed a network. "Some neighbors offered to take the children of a family that doesn't have documents to school," said Ana, who gave only her first name. "I think that in this regard we're all united."

The government claims it is targeting "criminals." But of those arrested in the first two weeks, 450 people who had committed no crimes received deportation orders. Another 45 are facing felony charges of reentering the United States after a prior deportation. If convicted, they face up to 20 years in prison. Some of those arrested were legal permanent residents with criminal convictions.

The government "is covering itself by saying that everyone they're deporting are criminals," packinghouse worker David Acevedo told the *Militant*. "They're not. The majority come to work."

ICE agents grabbed nearly 800 people from jails in Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. More than 500 others were arrested in their homes or workplaces. The *Los Angeles Times* described 146 of the arrests as "collateral"—people unable to prove legal status when agents asked them.

The arrests were done through collaboration between federal immigration agents and local cops. ICE recently created a 24-hour command center where local police can exchange information with immigration officials to speed up deportations.

"I don't consider myself a criminal," Ramon Yac Mahik told reporters from an immigration jail. The 35-year-old garment worker was arrested at his home. He said he has convictions from many years ago, and has faced a deportation order since 1999. "I would like to fight to see if they let me stay here with my children," he said.

Sub drive

Continued from front page

the Nation to shop.

"It was also helpful to turn to the page with the photo and description of Natives in Canada protesting uranium mining," wrote Dork. "This continues to be a hot issue on the reservation, where uranium mining is still banned for now."

Cecelia Moriarity writes from Seattle that 12 subscriptions were sold there at tables on campuses and in working-class communities, at political events defending a woman's right to choose abortion and demanding freedom for the Cuban Five, and elsewhere.

Moriarity described how supporters of the *Militant* there "explained the paper shows there's a fightback by working people going on. It provides an alternative news source to things like the Jena Six and protests against the raids and deportations."

Nearly every local area is ahead of schedule. By emulating the examples of the top sellers each week, we can go way over the 2,300 international goal!

To get involved in the subscription campaign, contact local distributors near you listed on p. 8. Or you can order a bundle at 70 cents a copy from the *Militant*; just write us at the address listed on p. 2.

Fall 'Militant' Subscription Drive
Sept. 29 – Nov. 18 ♦ Week 1 of 8

Country	Quota	Sold	%
SWEDEN	30	13	43%
CANADA*	125	43	34%
UNITED STATES			
Washington, DC*	125	78	62%
Denver	6	3	50%
Pittsburgh*	60	27	45%
Houston*	90	39	43%
Philadelphia	105	39	37%
Newark, NJ*	120	35	29%
Los Angeles*	100	28	28%
Twin Cities*	130	36	28%
San Francisco*	120	33	28%
New York*	315	85	27%
Chicago*	90	24	27%
Seattle*	100	26	26%
Boston	60	15	25%
Des Moines, IA	125	28	22%
Miami*	140	31	22%
Atlanta*	270	58	21%
Albany, NY	20	4	20%
U.S. Total	1,976	589	30%
AUSTRALIA*	45	11	24%
NEW ZEALAND	55	11	20%
UNITED KINGDOM			
Edinburgh	50	8	16%
London	70	21	30%
UK Total	120	29	24%
Int'l totals	2,351	696	30%
Should be	2,300	322	14%

* raised goal

Fund drive

Continued from front page

fort. These meetings take up a range of the political developments reported in the paper.

Cindy Jaquith and Ma'mud Shirvani have written extensively for the *Militant* on Washington's campaign of hostility against Iran. Jaquith will speak at meetings in Seattle, Los Angeles, and New York, and Shirvani will speak in Newark, New Jersey, at forums titled "U.S. Hands Off Iran!" Sam Manuel and Jacob Perasso participated in the September 20 march and rally of tens of thousands in Jena, Louisiana, demanding justice for the Jena Six. Manuel will speak in Chicago, and Perasso will speak in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Des Moines, Iowa, on the fight for Black rights.

This week the *Militant* received contributions from seven areas totaling $4,877—about $8,000 short of what's needed.

Contributions cover printing, shipping, rent, and other regular expenses, as well as international reporting teams.

To donate, contact local distributors listed on p. 8, or send checks payable to the *Militant* to the address listed on p. 2.

$100,000 'Militant' Fund Drive
Sept. 29 – Nov. 25 ♦ Week 1 of 8

Country	Quota	Paid	%
UNITED STATES			
New York	**15,000**	**2,652**	**18%**
San Francisco	**11,000**	**1,500**	**14%**
Los Angeles	8,500	385	5%
Chicago	6,000	100	2%
Washington, D.C.	2,800	30	1%
Atlanta	9,000	75	1%
Albany	125		0%
Boston	2,800		0%
Des Moines	2,000		0%
Houston	3,000		0%
Miami	3,000		0%
Newark	3,500		0%
Philadelphia	3,500		0%
Pittsburgh	3,500		0%
Seattle	7,000		0%
Twin Cities	4,700		0%
U.S. total	85,425	4,742	6%
NEW ZEALAND	3,000	135	5%
AUSTRALIA	1,400		0%
CANADA	4,100		0%
SWEDEN	700		0%
UNITED KINGDOM			
Edinburgh	650		0%
London	1,650		0%
UK TOTAL	2,300		0%
Intl'l totals	**99,225**	**4,877**	**5%**
Goal/Should be	**100,000**	**12,500**	**13%**

— ON THE PICKET LINE —

N.Y. warehouse workers fight for union representation

Members of Teamsters Local 805 rallied September 28 outside a Fresh Direct warehouse in Long Island City, New York. The action supported two pro-union workers, Loreto Gomez, 56, and Lonnie Powell, 49, who were fired in the midst of a unionization drive.

Fresh Direct is an online grocery delivery company. About 900 people work at its Long Island City warehouse. Five hundred truck drivers and delivery workers there won a union election in November 2006. They are represented by the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 348. Teamsters Local 805 is conducting an organizing drive among warehouse workers, who have pointed to wages just above $7 an hour on average, high health-care premiums, and forced overtime.

"I had complained about the long shifts and the lack of security, but it was when I came out in support of [a union] that they decided to terminate me," Gomez told the New York *Daily News.* "They made us work 12 and 14 hours a day, then…when some of us refused we were suspended for three days without pay."

—Ben O'Shaughnessy

New Zealand watersiders strike for wages, job safety

AUCKLAND, New Zealand—Waterside (longshore) workers picketed the Ports of Auckland's container terminals during a 48-hour strike begun October 2. The Maritime Union members are seeking a pay raise of up to 4.9 percent, backdated to when their contract expired on Nov. 30, 2006.

"It's taken us 15–20 years to get the union to where we are today," said Gordan Kopu, a watersider for 31 years. He pointed to the younger unionists who had never been on a picket line before. "We're stronger because we work well together, play well together, and now we're fighting together."

Picketers said that the number of containers they handle keeps increasing. The company wants to link extra payments to productivity. Another watersider, Paul, said such schemes undermine job safety. "I've asked the men, 'Who wants to volunteer to be the first to die?' Ours is a very dangerous industry. We have to be the ones to set the standards," he said.

—Janet Roth



Militant/Terri Coggan

Striking waterside (longshore) workers picket Ports of Auckland, New Zealand, October 2.

Relatives of trapped miners speak out at Utah hearings

BY ERNEST MAILHOT

The Bureau of Land Management warned in 2004 that further mining of pillars supporting the roof at the Crandall Canyon mine in Utah was unsafe, because they were already failing.

This came out in October 3 Congressional hearings on the August 6 collapse at the mine. Six miners died as a result of the collapse, and three more in the rescue attempt.

When Robert Murray took over the Crandall Canyon mine in 2006, he used a computer model to show the pillars could be mined safely. A standard formula for barrier widths indicates safe widths should have been 400 feet. The computer estimated 100 feet. The company was also cutting 40-foot sections out of the coal walls, weakening them even further.

Relatives of miners who died at Crandall Canyon addressed the October 3 hearing by the House Committee on Education and Labor. They said the mine's owner and the government were responsible.

Cesar Sanchez, a miner for 17 years, is the brother of Manuel Sanchez, who died in the August 6 collapse. He told the hearing that the owners of Crandall Canyon put "production over safety" and that his brother had complained that "the mine safety was not right." Cesar Sanchez also protested that the United Mine Workers union

Continued on page 9

Black lung doubles among U.S. coal miners

BY TONY LANE

PITTSBURGH—Black lung disease rates among U.S. coal miners have doubled in the last 10 years, according to a recent study by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

Black lung is a preventable disease caused by the inhalation of coal dust. Miners fought in the late 1960s to get the disease recognized as job-related. Tens of thousands of miners in West Virginia went on strike in 1969 to win black lung benefits. They also won laws to control dust levels in the mines. Black lung can be eradicated by reducing dust levels through ventilation, water sprays, and respirators.

Due to the miners' fight, black lung rates decreased from 33 percent in the 1970s to 5 percent in the 1990s. In 1997, 4 percent of miners with at least 25 years on the job showed signs of black lung. But data from 2005 and 2006 shows that figure has increased to 9 percent. The rate among miners with 20–24 years experience more than doubled over the last decade.

"I actually think the numbers are higher than that," said Sparkle Bonds, of the Virginia Black Lung Association, in an interview. She pointed to low participation in surveys and the fact that only working miners were studied.

"We are seeing younger coal miners—some in their early 40s—who have complicated black lung," said Bonds. She said coal companies are "going after smaller seams of coal and cutting more rock." Rock dust, or silica, "is more dangerous than coal dust."

Nearly 2,300 miners died of black lung in West Virginia alone from 1992 to 2002. Dr. Robert Cohen, medical director of the National Coalition of Black Lung Respiratory Disease Clinics, reported that since 2001, the government has found 437 cases of progressive massive fibrosis, the most advanced form of black lung.

Cohen called the report "alarming." United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) president Cecil Roberts said it was a "shocking and disturbing trend that must be investigated and must be reversed."

The Louisville *Courier-Journal* reported in June that black lung death rates in Kentucky rose 34 percent between 1998 and 2004.

Danny Hall, a former miner in Kentucky, had to have a lung transplant. Describing the high dust levels where he worked, he told the *Journal* that after 10 minutes "you couldn't breathe through a mask. It was clogged up."

The paper interviewed former Virginia miner Mark McCowan, 43. He said the bosses only worry about dust levels when an inspection is due. "You can eat all [the dust] you want until it comes time for a dust sample," he said. "The record production I give 'em has shortened my life on this earth."

Roberts said that either the existing dust standard is not strong enough or is not being strictly enforced. "It's likely to be the result of a combination of both factors," he said. The UMWA supports a NIOSH proposal to halve the level of allowable dust in coal mines.

Some industry officials deny the coal bosses' responsibility or claim the disease can't be eradicated. Bill Caylor of the Kentucky Coal Association told the *Journal*, "A lot of times they're more disabled by cigarette smoking than black lung."

A former NIOSH official said, "I hate to admit that there is a human lung cost of doing business, but it's possible that's what we may have to accept."

— 25, 50, AND 75 YEARS AGO —

25 CENTS
THE MILITANT
A SOCIALIST NEWSWEEKLY/PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

October 22, 1982

DETROIT—By a whopping two to one majority, Chrysler workers are rejecting the proposed contract with Chrysler. Workers are outraged at being offered a contract that gives them close to nothing. "Three times was enough," was how one worker put it.

Since 1979 Chrysler workers have been forced to accept three rounds of major concessions. They have gone through the bitter experience of union-management collaboration. From the local plant level to United Auto Workers President Douglas Fraser's decision to join Chrysler's board of directors, the strategy of collaboration has been carried out.

Since Chrysler claimed it was on the verge of bankruptcy in 1979 and demanded that the workers help bail them out, workers have lost an estimated $1.06 billion in wages and benefits. In 1979, Chrysler employed 76,000 workers. Today there are approximately 45,000.

THE MILITANT
PUBLISHED IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE
NEW YORK, N.Y. FIVE (5) CENTS

October 21, 1957

The election campaigns being waged by the Socialist Workers Party in New York and San Francisco are providing a growing basis for united action by socialists of various persuasions who share a common belief in the need to advance an independent socialist alternative to the Republican and Democratic parties of Big Business.

Vincent Hallinan, former Progressive party leader, will speak at rallies in both New York and San Francisco on behalf of the SWP slates.

In a letter of October 10, James Aronson, editor of the influential weekly, the *National Guardian*, urges support to the rally. The letter declares that a "vote for either of the major parties in the New York Mayoralty election on Nov. 5 would be a foolish waste of a valuable ballot."

THE MILITANT
Weekly Organ of the Communist League of America [Opposition]

October 22, 1932

A special cable to the *New York Times* of October 17 announces: "The most important Communist arrest ever made in Shanghai was carried out this morning when International Settlement police, acting on warrants issued by Chinese authorities, raided secret Communist headquarters and seized Chen Tu-hsiu."

The reference is obviously to our comrade Chen Du-hsiu, who was political secretary of the party during the period of the revolutionary struggle of 1925–27 and who subsequently came to the conclusion that the whole Stalin-Bucharin course during the Chinese revolution had inexorably driven the movement to its catastrophe.

It now appears that in alliance with the police of the foreign imperialists stationed in Shanghai, the counter-revolutionary bourgeoisie has finally arrested Chen Du-hsiu.

Atlanta campus meeting wins support for Cuban 5

BY BILL ARTH

ATLANTA—An October 2 meeting here titled "Fighting U.S. Aggression from Angola to Miami" was part of a month of stepped-up activities in defense of the Cuban Five. Sixty people attended, including students, professors, and workers.

The meeting was sponsored by the Atlanta Cuba Solidarity Committee, the Department of African-American Studies and the Sankofa Society at Georgia State University, and a number of political parties and organizations in solidarity with the Cuban Revolution. Taliba Obuya from the Malcolm X Grassroots Movement and Sankofa welcomed people to the event. Dianne Mathiowetz from the International Action Center and Loretta Van Pelt from the Young Socialists cochaired.

Sobukwe Shukura, a co-chair of the National Network on Cuba, pointed to the role of thousands of Cuban volunteer troops in the 1970s and '80s in helping to defeat the U.S.-backed South African apartheid army in Angola. Shukura is a member of the All African People's Revolutionary Party and hosts the "Revolutionary African Perspectives" show on WRFG radio.

Mathiowetz said the five Cubans were arrested nine years ago after collecting information on rightist organizations that have violently attacked Cuba. The five were charged with conspiracy to commit espionage and other offenses, and sentenced to long prison terms, she added.

"The Cuban Five are on the front lines of the class struggle in the United States today," said Jacob Perasso of the Socialist Workers Party. He pointed to the record that each of the five have in fighting to end imperialist domination. Three of them fought in Angola.

Two members of Cajolas United in Solidarity for Guatemala (CUSG) explained the devastating impact of U.S. government policies on Guatemala. A young member of the group, one of 13 brought to the meeting by CUSG, spoke in the discussion on the need to follow the examples of Che Guevara and Fidel Castro, and to make a revolution in the United States. The meeting also featured clips from *Mission Against Terror*, a video about the Cuban Five, and a film on Cuba's role in Angola.



Militant/Arlene Rubinstein

Attorney Leonard Weinglass speaks on case of Cuban Five at National Latino Congreso in Los Angeles October 6. Next to him is Delvis Fernández, executive director of Cuban American Alliance Education Fund, and National Lawyers Guild president Marjorie Cohn.

Cuban 5 at Latino congress

Continued from front page

getting out about this injustice," said Angela Sambrano, president of the National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities. "The denial of visas to their wives so that they can visit them in prison is inhumane."

The NLC also adopted a resolution demanding the extradition of Luis Posada Carriles to Venezuela. "He is the original airline terrorist in the Americas, responsible for the 1976 bombing of a Cuban airline and the murder of its 73 passengers, yet he walks the streets of Miami a free man thanks to the U.S. government," said Antonio Gonzalez, president of the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project and the William C. Velásquez Institute. The conference resolution was adopted on the 31st anniversary of this bombing.

More than 85 people attended a conference workshop on the Cuban Five featuring Leonard Weinglass, one of the lead attorneys in the case; José Pertierra, the attorney representing the Venezuelan government in the extradition of Posada Carriles; Reverend Lucius Walker, executive director of Pastors for Peace; Delvis Fernández, executive director of the Cuban American Alliance Education Fund; and Marjorie Cohn, president of the National Lawyers Guild.

"The problem is not the 'crazy' Cubans in Miami, but the U.S. government who uses them as props for its policies," said Pertierra. "The U.S. government is responsible for the Bay of Pigs invasion, Operation Mongoose, and numerous attempts to assassinate Fidel Castro." Operation Mongoose was a U.S. program of sabotage and assassination directed against the Cuban Revolution in the early 1960s.

Michael Ortega, a member of the Young Socialists, pointed to protests demanding justice for the Jena Six as an opportunity to broaden support for the Cuban Five. The International Committee for the Freedom of the Cuban Five distributed literature to many who were learning about the case for the first time.

N.Y. event celebrates legacy of Che Guevara

BY OLGA RODRÍGUEZ

NEW YORK—More than 200 people attended a meeting here to celebrate the life and contributions of one of the Cuban revolution's central leaders, Ernesto Che Guevara, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of his assassination in Bolivia. The October 6 event was the largest in a series of local activities in the month-long international campaign to win freedom for the Cuban Five.

Basilio Gutiérrez, vice president of the Cuban Institute for Friendship with the Peoples, was the main speaker. He said Guevara's most important contributions to the character of the Cuban Revolution and its people were "solidarity and internationalism," and a "communist attitude, where the most important thing is the example.

"The U.S. wants to kill the example of the Cuban Revolution," he said. But Washington has failed in this effort, because it has always "underestimated the Cuban people."

Gutiérrez pointed to the U.S.-organized Bay of Pigs invasion and to Washington's hopes today that Cubans will abandon the revolution after the passing of Fidel Castro and leaders of his generation. Jane Franklin, a long-time activist in solidarity with Cuba and author of several books on U.S.-Cuba relations, spoke on the 1976 bombing by U.S.-backed Cuban exiles of a Cuban airplane.



Roberto Mercado

Basilio Gutiérrez of Cuban Institute of Friendship with the Peoples speaks at October 6 meeting in New York City.

Ben Ramos of the Popular Education Project to Free the Cuban Five read a message from Oscar López Rivera, in prison for his actions in support of Puerto Rican independence. López's message urged Puerto Ricans to throw themselves into the effort to free the Cuban Five.

Ramos also read a letter from Fernando González, one of the five, about his transfer in September from a federal prison in Oxford, Wisconsin, to Terre Haute, Indiana. López Rivera is also jailed there. Ann Lamb from the Jericho Project read a solidarity message from Mumia Abu-Jamal, who called for the five's freedom. Abu-Jamal is an activist on death row framed-up on murder charges.

Int'l conference on Cuban 5 to be held in Toronto in November

BY SAM MANUEL

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Cuba solidarity groups in Canada and the United States will hold a joint conference to build support for five Cuban revolutionaries unjustly jailed in the United States. The conference, titled "Breaking the Silence: Canada-US Solidarity Conference on the Cuban Five," will take place in Toronto November 9–11.

Special participants will include family members of the five Cubans. The campaign to win their freedom includes calling on the U.S. government to grant visas to Olga Salanueva and Adriana Pérez, wives of two of the imprisoned revolutionaries. The women have been trying for eight years to visit their husbands in jail. Washington has denied them visas each time they applied.

The conference is being organized by the U.S.-based National Network on Cuba (NNOC) and the Canadian

Continued on page 7

How Blacks led U.S. toilers in Radical Reconstruction



Blacks were the majority in 1873 South Carolina state legislature. During Radical Reconstruction, Blacks led fights by the toilers for redistribution of land from the former slave owners.

BY SAM MANUEL

WASHINGTON—Demonstrations on September 20 demanding justice for the Jena Six were the largest protests for Black rights in recent years. They were one registration of the place of workers who are Black at the forefront of political and social struggles in the United States.

The vanguard role of Black workers in the line of march toward political power by the working class in the United States has a long history. This is the first in a series of articles that will review that historical record and its importance for working people as a whole.

The Black nationality in the United States was forged by the course of development of American capitalism following the defeat of Radical Reconstruction, the post–Civil War period of 1867–77.

From the foundation of the United States as a bourgeois republic, Northern capitalists, who depended on the exploitation of free wage labor, and Southern plantation owners, whose economic system was based on chattel slavery, contended for control of the country. This irreconcilable conflict of class interests exploded into civil war on April 12, 1861, with a slaveholders' rebellion. That war, the Second American Revolution, would decide whether the country's vast undeveloped land would "be wedded to the labor of the emigrant or prostituted by the tramp of the slave driver," Karl Marx, one of the founders of the modern communist movement, wrote in a letter from the International Working Men's Association to President Abraham Lincoln in 1865.

Following the overthrow of the slavocracy in 1865, Blacks, who had fought in large numbers in the Union Army, had expectations that they would win not only freedom but land and improved living conditions. Instead, most former slaves were forced into contract labor gangs on plantations under the "Black Codes" adopted by most state governments in the South.

Blacks organized to resist these virtual slave conditions. They won support from some in the Northern labor movement as well as from sections of the industrial capitalists who were alarmed at efforts by the former slaveowners to reassert their political influence.

Directed by abolitionists and leaders of the Radical wing of the Republican Party, and urged on by the Black masses, Congress prolonged the occupation of the South by federal troops. Blacks took initiatives to press for reconstructing the South in the interests of the broad toiling masses.

In 1865, Colored People's Conventions were held in most Southern states. They issued a new Bill of Rights that declared the rights of Blacks to vote, serve on juries, own land, and bear arms; set up free public education; and repealed the Black Codes.

Constitutional conventions, held in the Southern states to reconstitute the governments, were composed of Black and white delegates. At the Alabama convention, a Black voter shouted: "Forty acres of land! A mule! Freedom! Votes! Equal of white man!" That cry became the standard of the struggle.

By 1867, Radical Reconstruction regimes were set up throughout the South. They repealed the Black Codes and established basic legal rights for the freed slaves. In states such as South Carolina, where the legislature was majority Black, they adopted progressive social legislation including laws that taxed the rich, set up the first free public schools in the South, and expanded rights for women.

Blacks also pressed for a land reform—to confiscate the large plantations and divide the land among freed slaves and rural toilers who were white. For example, on the Sea Islands off the coast of Georgia and South Carolina, 40,000 former slaves took 40 acres of land each. When the plantation owners attempted to reclaim the land, the farmers armed themselves and resisted.

Freed slaves who had served in the Union Army kept their rifles and helped organize committees to defend Blacks against attacks.

The development of confidence among freed slaves and toilers who were white threatened the U.S. capitalist class. The growing conservatism of the Republican Party emboldened white supremacists, who dominated the Democratic Party in the South. They launched a bloody campaign through the Ku Klux Klan and other racist terror groups to overturn Radical Reconstruction.

The counterrevolution was completed with a deal between the Republican and Democratic parties to withdraw federal troops from the South in 1877, paving the way for the violent restoration of white supremacy.

The defeat of Radical Reconstruction, engineered by the industrial capitalists, set back the possibilities of a fighting alliance of workers, Black and white, in the United States. In 1877, Marx had expressed the expectation that nationwide strikes sparked by rail workers might open up a new situation fostering such an alliance.

"The first eruption against the oligarchy of associated capital which has arisen since the Civil War will of course be put down," Marx wrote Frederick Engels. But "the policy of the new President [Rutherford Hayes of withdrawing troops from the South] will turn the Negroes into allies of the workers, and the large expropriations of land (especially fertile land) in favour of railway, mining, etc., companies will convert the peasants of the West, who are already very disenchanted, into allies of the workers."

U.S. politics took a different course, however, given the strength of the rising bourgeoisie and the weakness of the working class at the time. Through the defeat of Radical Reconstruction, "not only Afro-Americans but the entire working class had suffered the worst setback in its history," wrote Farrell Dobbs, a leader of the Socialist Workers Party, in the book *Revolutionary Continuity: the Early Years, 1848–1917.* "The rural poor and working class were forcibly divided along color lines. The value of labor power was driven down and class solidarity crippled."

The white supremacist governments in the South passed a series of laws known as Jim Crow, a system of legal segregation that disenfranchised Blacks and broadly discriminated against them. It rested on state-sanctioned terror, including public lynchings, whippings, and burnings of Blacks. This campaign of violence was carried out by groups such as the Ku Klux Klan, often with the aid of local cops, and was emboldened by the federal government's inaction.

Pakistani president reelected amid opposition

BY RÓGER CALERO

October 8—General Pervez Musharraf was reelected president of Pakistan October 6 amidst growing opposition.

Most opposition parties boycotted the elections. Middle-class layers opposed to Musharraf's regime said the election was unconstitutional and vowed to continue protests against his government.

Pakistan's president is elected by the national and provincial assemblies. Musharraf received a majority vote from legislators in parliament and four provincial assemblies, extending his rule to 2012.

Musharraf's coalition has a majority in the assemblies, which are set to be dissolved in a few weeks for a general election in January. Only a handful of his opponents were among the 685 legislators who cast a vote, out of the 1,170 eligible.

Leading up to the elections, Musharraf's opponents sought to block the vote, filing petitions with the country's Supreme Court to bar him from running for re-election while still serving as army chief.

In an attempt to give legitimacy to the election and overcome constitutional challenges, Musharraf brokered a power-sharing deal with former prime minister Benazir Bhutto. In exchange for Bhutto's Pakistan Peoples Party not joining the boycott, Musharraf granted Bhutto amnesty from corruption charges. This opens the door for her return from exile.

As part of the agreement, Bhutto is demanding constitutional changes that would allow her to serve a third term as prime minister if her party wins a majority in the January elections.

Musharraf announced that he will step down as army chief by November 15, when the current presidential term expires. He appointed Lt. Gen. Ashfaq Parvez Kayani as vice chief of army staff. Kayani is expected to become army chief once Musharraf steps down.

Washington encouraged the deal between Musharraf and Bhutto, hoping it would bring stability to Pakistan and maintain Musharraf as head of the country.

"Pakistan is an important partner and ally to the United States and we congratulate them for today's election," said Gordon Johndroe, a spokesperson for the White House National Security Council.

"We look forward to the electoral commission's announcement and to working with all of Pakistan's leaders on important bilateral, regional and counterterrorism issues."

Pressed by Washington, the Musharraf regime moved tens of thousands of troops to the northwestern border with Afghanistan last July to fight Taliban and al-Qaeda forces.

Prior to that offensive, Musharraf had allowed Islamist groups to function largely unchecked, hoping to garner their support to counter growing opposition to his eight-year rule from other bourgeois forces.

Many in Pakistan blame Musharraf's support to the U.S.-led "war on terrorism" for the surge in attacks by Taliban and al-Qaeda forces within Pakistan, which has cost the lives of hundreds of people since July.

Int'l conference

Continued from page 6

Network On Cuba. Speaking here at the premiere showing of a film on the case, Ignacio Meneses, a cochair of the NNOC, said the conference will be an opportunity for activists from the United States to meet with family members of the five and other Cubans working on the defense effort. Cubans are prevented from taking part in such conferences in the United States due to Washington's denial of visas to Cubans and travel restrictions placed on Cuban diplomats in the United States. U.S. citizens are prevented from having such exchanges in Cuba due to Washington's travel ban against that country.

Information on the conference can be found at www.canadiannetworkon-cuba.ca/.

‘Imperialists can’t forgive Cuba’s socialist revolution’

Playa Girón/Bay of Pigs: Washington’s First Military Defeat in the Americas *is one of Pathfinder’s Books of the Month in October. It is a collection of speeches and documents capturing the 72 hours of combat during April 1961 when Cuba’s Revolutionary Armed Forces and militias defeated a U.S.-backed invasion of the country at Playa Girón, known in the United States as the Bay of Pigs.*

Below are excerpts from an April 16, 1961, speech by Fidel Castro to a mass funeral procession honoring seven people killed in bombing raids carried out in preparation for the invasion. In it, he mobilizes Cuba’s working people to defend the country’s territory and proclaims the socialist character of the revolution. Copyright ©2001 by Pathfinder Press. Reprinted with permission.



Bohemia

Airfield in Santiago de Cuba on April 15 after mercenary attack. “This revolution is not defended with mercenaries,” says Castro. “It is defended by men and women of the people.”

BOOKS OF THE MONTH

BY FIDEL CASTRO

Here we have, as other peoples have seldom had, the opportunity of knowing what imperialism is—inside and out, on every coast, top to bottom. Here we have the opportunity of appreciating how its whole financial, propaganda, and political apparatus works, as well as its mercenaries, secret bodies, and officials, who, with such tranquility and in an almost unheard of manner, are tricking the world.

Try to imagine how we would have known what’s happening in the world. How we would have been able to know what’s happening in the world, if this were the only version and the only explanation that countless people around the world are getting!

In other words, they organized the attack, prepared the attack, trained the mercenaries, supplied the planes, supplied the bombs, prepared the airports—everyone knows it. The attack occurs and they calmly state before the world that it’s not so. This is a world that they know would rise up in indignation in face of such a monstrous, cowardly act that violates the rights of the peoples and is a violation of peace! [*Applause*]

And these miserable gringo imperialists, after shrouding seven homes in mourning, after murdering a handful of young people who were not millionaire parasites—because those we’ve come here to bury were not millionaire parasites, they were not mercenaries who sold themselves for foreign gold, they were not thieves. They are true sons of our people! [*Prolonged applause*]

What the imperialists cannot forgive is that we are here. What the imperialists cannot forgive is the dignity, the integrity, the courage, the firmness of ideas, the spirit of sacrifice, and the revolutionary spirit of the people of Cuba. [*Applause*]

That is what they cannot forgive, that we are here under their very nose. What they cannot forgive is that we have made a socialist revolution right under the very nose of the United States! [*Applause and shouts*] That we defend this socialist revolution with these guns! [*Applause*] That we defend this socialist revolution with the same courage shown yesterday when our antiaircraft artillery riddled the aggressor’s planes with bullets! [*Applause and shouts of “Venceremos!” and other revolutionary slogans.*]

This revolution is not defended with mercenaries. This revolution is defended by men and women of the people.

Compañero workers and peasants, this is the socialist and democratic revolution of the working people, with the working people, and for the working people. [*Applause*] And for this revolution of the working people, by the working people, and for the working people we are prepared to give our lives. [*Shouts*]

Workers and peasants, men and women of our homeland: Do you swear to defend to the last drop of blood this revolution of the working people, by the working people, and for the working people? [*Shouts of “Yes!”*]

Here, in front of the graves of our fallen comrades; beside the remains of the heroic youth, children of workers and children of ordinary working men and women, we reaffirm our determination. Just as they faced the bullets, just as they gave their lives, we state that no matter when the mercenaries come, no matter who we face, that we are all proud of our revolution, proud to defend this revolution of the working people, for the working people, and by the working people. And we will not hesitate to defend it to the last drop of blood. [*Applause*]

Long live the working class! [*Shouts of “Long live!”*]

Long live the peasants! [*Shouts of “Long live!”*]

Long live the humble! [*Shouts of “Long live!”*]

Long live the martyrs of the homeland! [*Shouts of “Long live!”*]

Forever long live the heroes of the homeland! [*Shouts of “Long live!”*]

Long live the socialist revolution! [*Shouts of “Long live!”*]

Long live free Cuba! [*Shouts of “Long live!”*]

Patria o muerte! Venceremos! [*Applause*]

Let us sing the National Anthem, compañeros. [*Those present sing the National Anthem.*]

Compañeros, all units need to head toward the site of their respective battalions, in view of the mobilization order to maintain the country in a state of alert in face of the imminent mercenary aggression that can be deduced by all the events of the last weeks and yesterday’s cowardly attack.

Let us march to the Militia Houses.

Let us form up the battalions and prepare to go confront the enemies, with the national anthem on our lips, with the words of the patriotic anthem, with the cry of “To battle,” with the conviction that “to die for the homeland is to live” and “to live in chains is to live plunged in ignominy and shame.”

Compañeros, let us march to our respective battalions and wait there for orders. [*Applause*]



PATHFINDER READERS CLUB SPECIALS

25% DISCOUNT

Playa Girón/Bay of Pigs: Washington’s First Military Defeat in the Americas
by Fidel Castro, José Ramón Fernández
In less than 72 hours, Cuba’s revolutionary militias and armed forces defeated an invasion backed by Washington.
$20. **Special price: $15**



Aldabonazo: Inside the Cuban Revolutionary Underground 1952-58, a participant’s account
by Armando Hart $25. **Special price: $19**

In Defense of Socialism
by Fidel Castro
Four speeches on the thirtieth anniversary of the Cuban Revolution.
$20. **Special price: $15**

Cosmetics, Fashions, and the Exploitation of Women
by Evelyn Reed, Joseph Hansen, Mary-Alice Waters
$15. **Special price: $11.50**

Che Habla a la Juventud
(Che Talks to Young People, in Spanish)
by Ernesto Che Guevara
$15. **Special price: $11.50**

Their Morals and Ours
by Leon Trotsky, John Dewey
$15. **Special price: $11.50**

Join Pathfinder Readers Club for $10 and receive discounts all year long

ORDER ONLINE AT WWW.PATHFINDERPRESS.COM
OFFER GOOD UNTIL OCTOBER 31, 2007

IF YOU LIKE THIS PAPER, LOOK US UP

Where to find distributors of the *Militant*, *New International*, and a full display of Pathfinder books.

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA: Los Angeles: 4229 S. Central Ave. Zip: 90011. Tel: (323) 233-9372. E-mail: laswp@sbcglobal.net **San Francisco:** 3926 Mission St. Zip: 94112. Tel: (415) 584-2135. E-mail: swpsf@sbcglobal.net

FLORIDA: Miami: 8365 NE 2nd Ave. #206. Mailing address: P.O. Box 381395. Zip: 33138. Tel: (305) 756-4436. E-mail: miamiswp@bellsouth.net

GEORGIA: Atlanta: 1146 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd. SW. Zip: 30310. Mailing address: P.O. Box 162515. Zip: 30321. Tel: (404) 758-2151. E-mail: swpatlanta@bellsouth.net

ILLINOIS: Chicago: 3557 S. Archer Ave. Zip: 60609. Tel: (773) 890-1190. E-mail: Chicagoswp@sbcglobal.net

IOWA: Des Moines: 3707 Douglas Ave. Zip: 50310. Tel: (515) 255-1707. E-mail: swpdesmoines@qwest.net

MASSACHUSETTS: Boston: 13 Bennington St., 2nd Floor, East Boston. Zip: 02128. Tel: (617) 569-9169. E-mail: swpboston@verizon.net

MINNESOTA: Minneapolis: 1311 1/2 E. Lake St. Zip: 55407. Tel: (612) 729-1205. E-mail: tcswp@qwest.net

NEW JERSEY: Newark: 168 Bloomfield Ave., 2nd Floor. Zip: 07104. Tel: (973) 481-0077. E-mail: swpnewark@optonline.net

NEW YORK: Albany: Tel: (518) 929-4786. E-mail: youngsocialists518@gmail.com **Manhattan**: 306 W. 37th St., 10th Floor. Zip: 10018. Tel: (212) 629-6649. E-mail: newyorkswp@mac.com

PENNSYLVANIA: Philadelphia: 188 W. Wyoming Ave. Zip: 19140. Tel: (215) 455-2682. E-mail: philaswp@verizon.net **Pittsburgh:** 5907 Penn Ave., Suite 225. Zip: 15206. Tel: (412) 365-1090. E-mail: PittsburghSWP @verizon.net

TEXAS: Houston: 4800 W. 34th St., Suite C-51A. Zip: 77092. Tel: (713) 688-4919. E-mail: swp.houston1@ sbcglobal.net

WASHINGTON, D.C.: 3717 B Georgia Ave. NW, Ground Floor. Zip: 20010. Tel: (202) 536-5080. E-mail: swp.washingtondc@verizon.net

WASHINGTON: Seattle: 5418 Rainier Ave. South. Zip: 98118-2439. Tel: (206) 323-1755. E-mail: seattleswp@speakeasy.net

AUSTRALIA

Sydney: 1st Flr, 3/281-287 Beamish St., Campsie, NSW 2194. Mailing address: P.O. Box 164, Campsie, NSW 2194. Tel: (02) 9718 9698. E-mail: cl_australia@optusnet.com.au

CANADA

ONTARIO: Toronto: 2238 Dundas St. W., #201, Postal code M6R 3A9. Tel: (416) 535-9140. E-mail: cltoronto@bellnet.ca

FRANCE

Paris: P.O. 175, 23 rue Lecourbe. Postal code: 75015. Tel: (01) 40-10-28-37. E-mail: milpath.paris@laposte.net

NEW ZEALAND

Auckland: Suite 3, 7 Mason Ave., Otahuhu. Postal address: P.O. Box 3025. Tel: (9) 276-8885. E-mail: clauck@xtra.co.nz

SWEDEN

Stockholm: Bildhuggarvägen 17, 12144 Johanneshov. Tel: (08) 31 69 33. E-mail: kfstockholm@tele2.se

UNITED KINGDOM

ENGLAND: London: First Floor, 120 Bethnal Green (Entrance in Brick Lane). Postal code: E2 6DG. Tel: 020-7613-3855. E-mail: cllondon@onetel.com

SCOTLAND: Edinburgh: Second Floor, 105 Hanover St. Postal code: EH2 1DJ. Tel: 0131-226-2756. E-mail: cl.edinburgh@ btinternet.com

EDITORIAL

Join campaign to free Cuban 5

The just-concluded month of actions in the campaign to free the Cuban Five demonstrates the increased possibilities to win support for their release. Student groups, university departments, and immigrant rights organizations are among those that have joined the effort to free these five Cuban revolutionaries unjustly held in U.S. prisons. Activities on their behalf have been held in numerous U.S. cities and throughout the world.

Word is increasingly getting out about the frame-up of Antonio Guerrero, Gerardo Hernández, Ramón Labañino, Fernando González, and René González. These men were gathering information in southern Florida on counterrevolutionary Cuban American groups that have organized violent attacks against Cuba from the United States. In a trial marked by violations of constitutional rights, the five were convicted of "conspiracy to commit espionage," "conspiracy to act as an unregistered foreign agent," and, in the case of Hernández, "conspiracy to commit murder." They were sentenced to draconian prison terms ranging from 15 years to a double life sentence. Their only "crime" is defending the Cuban Revolution from Washington's unending aggression.

In the nine years they have been in prison, the five have been on the front lines of political and social struggles in the United States. They have refused to have their spirits broken by inhumane treatment behind bars. They pass revolutionary literature around to fellow inmates to study and discuss. They send messages of support to political, union, and social struggles.

Because of their actions, and the dogged efforts of Cuba's revolutionary leadership, the U.S. government and big-business media have been increasingly unable to maintain their wall of silence on the case. As they learn the facts, many working people and youth identify with the Cuban Five. The frame-up methods used against them are typical of the capitalist "justice" meted out to millions of ordinary people in the United States.

This is the time to build on the success of the past month's activities to win freedom for the Cuban Five. An international conference will take place in Toronto in November. A conference is being organized in New York, and other plans are under way. Get involved! Reach out to political groups, students, coworkers, and others. Organize activities to get out the facts about the case. That is the best way to build this campaign and demand "Free the Cuban Five!"

Kurdish gov't in Iraq signs oil deals

Continued from front page

Barzani responded to critics in an October 6 editorial in the *Wall Street Journal.* "Federalism means that we have the liberty to develop our resources under the umbrella, but not the central control, of Iraq," he wrote.

In May the KRG was granted full military control over the northern Iraqi provinces of Erbil, Dohuk, and Sulaymaniyah. It exercises de-facto control over parts of Diyali, Tamim, and Nineveh provinces. The region is approximately 32,000 square miles and borders Turkey, Iran, and Syria.

A majority of Iraq's 5 million Kurds live in this region. They are part of an oppressed nation of 25 million that spans large areas in Turkey and Iran, as well as parts of Syria and Armenia.

The Kurdistan Regional Government was formed in 1992 following the first U.S.-led assault on Iraq.

The two main political parties that dominate Iraqi Kurdistan are Barzani's Kurdistan Democratic Party and the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. A September 6 article in the *Economist* described them as largely "tribal fiefs, with power, money and even land distributed from the top by the ruling families."

The KRG has "supported nearly every major initiative and decision that the U.S. has sought in Iraq," wrote Barzani in the editorial. "We want the U.S. to remain, and we need American help. In return for our loyalty we ask understanding."

At the same time, the Kurds' growing autonomy in northern Iraq has fanned the national aspirations of Kurds throughout the region, who see their flag flying for the first time over a section of historic Kurdistan.

This has alarmed the regimes of neighboring countries with large Kurdish populations. In Syria, Kurds staged the largest mass protests in decades in 2004 and were brutally suppressed by Damascus. In Turkey, a decades-long war against the Maoist Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) has threatened to spill into Iraqi Kurdistan.

Washington and its allies have pressed the KRG to crack down on the activities in of the PKK and other parties involved in the Kurdish national struggle. In September, the KRG declared two such parties illegal, the PKK and the Party for a Free Life in Kurdistan, a PKK offshoot based in Iran.

Utah mine hearings

Continued from page 5

was barred from the investigation.

Steve Allred, whose brother Kerry died in the mine, said the Mine Safety and Health Administration took only 12 days to approve Crandall Canyon's mining plans. Allred, a union miner, said a union provides "safety in numbers when it comes to mining."

The U.S. Labor Department has refused a subpoena for documents related to the Crandall Canyon mine. Rep. George Miller, chair of the panel, said neither the Labor Department nor the company has been fully cooperative with the committee.

LETTERS

'Militant' reaches prisoners

My papers reach many who would never have the remotest idea of just how important workers' rights are, social injustice, and the changing (hopefully) face of politics in our country. Thank you so much!

A prisoner
Pearl, Mississippi

CORRECTION

The article "Illinois abortion clinic opens after three-month fight," in the October 15 *Militant* (issue no. 38), should have read "a new Planned Parenthood clinic opened here today."

Antiwar march I

It was great to talk to your representative at the September 29th march, which received miserable coverage in the *Washington Post* as always. The myth of "the liberal press" goes on, with the beat of the drums of war. The presence of so many groups presented by major media as diffusion of intent, instead illustrates multitudinous attacks on we the people from every direction. Today the S-CHIP [State Children's Health Insurance Program] supporters descend on the Capitol, tomorrow others, and CODE Pink daily.

Thanks for all you do.

Kaye Kane
Gaithersburg, Maryland

Antiwar march II

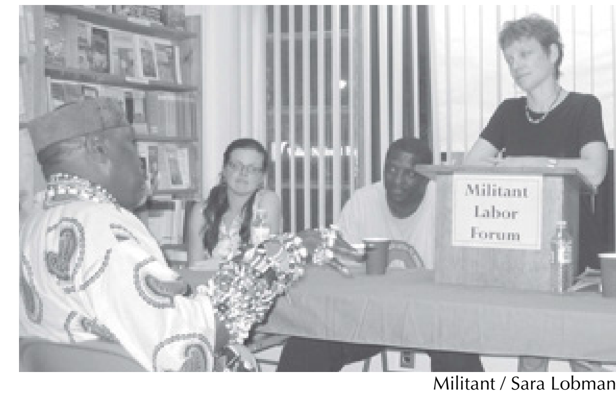
I sold five [*Militants*] (but unfortunately was not able to get someone to subscribe) at the anti-war march in Portland. There were hundreds of people but not thousands as before.

The *Militant* keeps us going for sure!

Marta DeLeón
Beaverton, Oregon

The letters column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of interest to working people. Please keep your letters brief. Where necessary they will be abridged. Please indicate if you prefer that your initials be used rather than your full name.

'Justice for Jena 6!'



Militant / Sara Lobman

October 5 Militant Labor Forum in Newark, New Jersey.

Continued from front page

a Black student asked if Black students could sit under a tree called the "white tree." The principal said yes, and Black students sat under it. The next day nooses were hanging from the tree.

Three white students who hung the nooses were recommended for expulsion, but the school superintendent and parish district attorney overturned the decision, calling the matter "a harmless prank." The students received two weeks in-school suspension. On December 1 a Black student, Robert Bailey Jr., was assaulted by a white student at a party. The white student received probation for simple assault.

Reacting to the unequal justice at the hands of the courts, cops, and school administration, family and friends of the six indicted students formed the Jena 6 Defense Committee. The case has won support around the country. On September 20, tens of thousands converged on Jena to demand justice. Rallies were held in dozens of other cities.

Both DeLuca and Carey participated in the Jena march. They said they were struck by the pride and confidence of those protesting. "I was elated to be a part and felt like we were making history," Carey said.

"From Radical Reconstruction, to the mass civil rights movement that overthrew Jim Crow and inspired the fights against the war in Vietnam and for women's rights; the fight against racism during World War II; and the efforts to build trade unions, workers who are Black have historically been in the vanguard in the U.S. class struggle," DeLuca said. "Today Blacks face deeply entrenched racist treatment under capitalism—discrimination required by the profit system to keep workers divided and worsen wages, job conditions, and living standards of all working people.

"The bosses depend on these divisions among workers so we fight each other instead of our common enemy and oppressor," she said.

DeLuca noted that there were some immigrant workers at the September 20 march, and they received a warm welcome.

"One white woman was in her yard with a 'Free the Jena 6' T-shirt on," said Carey. "She explained to us that the town is segregated."

"We should look to the example of Cuba, where since the socialist revolution they've combated racist and sexist oppression and continue to work against vestiges of these attitudes today," said DeLuca. "We need a revolution here to open the road to defeat racism and build a society based on human solidarity and dignity."

A lively discussion followed the presentations.

"Is there a basis for any charges against the Jena Six?" was the first question. "Some people say there should be, since a white student was beaten up. But I think all charges should be dropped," said the audience member.

"I think the punishment didn't fit the crime," said Carey.

"Knocking out someone from behind and kicking him is not a defensible act," another participant said. "That has nothing to do with the right of self-defense against racist violence practiced by Black rights and working class fighters like Malcolm X, the Deacons for Defense, and Robert F. Williams."

One forum attendee said he hated how the Democratic Party portrays itself today as being on the side of Blacks. He grew up in the South and said the Democratic politicians were the ones who enforced Jim Crow. "We called them the Dixiecrats, " he said.

Carey and DeLuca urged everyone to continue getting out the facts on the case and organizing events to demand justice. "Since I returned I've been telling everyone about the trip," Carey said.